



Left—Cato Sells, Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Center—An Indian who has gone into the stock raising business.

Right—Teaching Indian boys and girls how to use the typewriter.

Big Business Among the Indians

ASK the first person you meet how many Indians there are in this country and the chances are ten to one that the answer will be off at least half a million.

There are 325,000 of them. They are divided into 280 tribes or bands and are located on 200 reservations in 20 different states.

Many people are under the impression that the Indians are rapidly degenerating and disappearing. The truth is the exact opposite. The birth rate among the American Indians now exceeds the death rate. They are advancing along various lines of business, health and education with amazing rapidity.

According to Cato Sells, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, the Indians are making good in a most commendable manner.

Last year 50,000 Indians were engaged in stock raising. Their live stock is estimated as being worth \$40,000,000. The cattle raising experience on the Crow reservation in Montana will serve as a fair illustration of how the stock movement is progressing among all the tribes. Five years ago 10,000 head of cattle were placed on this reservation at a total cost of \$456,000. The expense of conducting the ranch for the ensuing five years was \$399,000. At the end of that period the profits and value of the herd aggregated \$1,547,000, showing a clean profit of \$692,000 on the investment. In the meantime the Indians had mastered the highly important art of breeding, selling and properly caring for cattle under all sorts of conditions.

Much attention is also being given to sheep raising and the selling of wool. On the Jicarilla reservation in New Mexico, for instance, 4,000 sheep were purchased in 1914 at a cost of \$25,000. Five years later this herd had increased to 10,000. After deducting all expenses of operation, an average net profit of \$35,000 a year for the five years was shown in favor of the Indians. It should also be borne in mind that during

those five years it was not an uncommon sight to see contented red-skinned families feasting on a nice roast leg of lamb or nicely browned mutton chops.

Forestry and lumbering is one of the vast industrial enterprises of the Indians of today. They are the owners of 6,500,000 acres of valuable timber land, conservatively valued at \$84,000,000. These forests are rapidly and economically being converted into lumber through the daily operation of 73 sawmills located upon the various reservations. The most extensive lumbering operation is conducted on the Menominee reservation in Wisconsin, which turns out about 20,000,000 feet of lumber each year. The logs are brought to the mills over a logging railroad a distance of 18 miles. The lumber produced at these mills consists principally of white pine, hemlock, birch, basswood, elm and maple. So well manufactured is this lumber that a ready market is found in Milwaukee, Chicago and neighboring cities. Some of it is shipped as far east as Massachusetts. Upon a number of occasions the Indians shipped several million feet of select white pine and rock elm from this reservation to Liverpool, England. The amount of merchantable timber remaining on this reservation is estimated at 1,000,000,000 feet.

Perhaps the biggest line of business among the Indians is the oil and gas wells and coal mines located in Oklahoma. The mineral properties of the Indians in that state have marvelously increased in value in recent years. The 2,186 Osage Indians, whose property aside from the mineral product is valued at \$20,000,000, received during the past year an income of \$8,000,000 from oil and gas alone. The restricted Indians of the Five Civilized Tribes also received \$4,000,000 royalty from oil and gas during the same year. During the past six years the royalties paid the Indians on oil, gas, coal and other minerals amounted to \$27,637,000. A conservative value of the individual and tribal property of the Indians, exclusive of oil and gas, is \$667,-

000,000. Add to this the value of oil and gas properties and it will run well over the billion mark.

Forty thousand Indians have become enthusiastic farmers, and their number is increasing constantly. The crops produced by these thrifty agriculturalists last year were sold for more than \$12,000,000.

There was a time in the history of the red men when about the only kind of irrigation that interested them to any appreciable extent was the kind obtained by making frequent connections with the neck of a dark yellow bottle from which distiller's dew gurgled in dizzy quantities. That style of irrigation has become unpopular, unprofitable and unsatisfactory. The progressive Indians have decided that it pays better to raise corn than to drink it. With that idea in mind they are damming the rivers and creeks flowing through their arid and semi-arid lands, and are conveying this harnessed water to their broad and fertile acres by scientific irrigation methods. The results are astounding. Land idle for centuries, producing nothing but lizards, rattlesnakes, skeletons and buzzard food, is now producing crops worth \$400 an acre. These crops are varied, consisting of alfalfa, corn, cotton and vegetables of all kinds. The cotton produced last year sold for \$6,000,000.

The facilities for educating the Indian boys and girls are on a par with those of an average city in the Middle West or New England. The attendance at present averages 64,000.

The importance of being born healthy has, in late years, become a fixed principle among the Indians. They take the position that health is a prerequisite to happiness and prosperity. Disease and unsanitary conditions are now fought with the same grim determination that they formerly fought their white brothers. A total of 80 hospitals has been established on the various reservations. This requires a force of 200 physicians, ably assisted by a capable corps of nurses and matrons.

DO YOU know how properly to care for your watch? Watches are high and the cost of repair is beyond many a purse. A watch may run for years and keep good time with little attention but you cannot count on its giving you either long service or accuracy unless you take care of it.

Always wind your watch in the morning (I venture you wind yours at night). The power that the spring furnishes as it uncoils is not constant, but is greatest when the spring is wound up and decreases as it unwinds. Therefore, a watch wound in the morning has more energy to withstand the jolting that it gets through the day. During the night the watch is at rest and therefore not subject to jolts.

If you wind your watch at night, do not lay it down on a cold surface such as that of a marble mantelpiece. The sudden chill may cause the spring to contract sufficiently to bind, and so stop the movement.

When you hold your watch vertically, the friction of the pivots is at its greatest, and tends to retard the movement. When you lay the watch flat, you reduce the friction and accelerate the movement. Watchmakers allow for that in regulating, but they make their observations and change the positions of the

The Care of Your Watch

watches at regular intervals; whereas there is never the same regularity when the watches are in use.

Since your watch is meant to run vertically when you carry it, keep it vertical at night as well as in the daytime. If after a few days you find that it gains or loses, have a watchmaker regulate it.

The best place for a watch at night is on a watch stand covered with a thick cloth. Cloth is a poor conductor of heat, and will protect the watch from sudden chills. If you hang your watch on a hook see that the back of the case rests against the wall so that the watch cannot swing.

Protect your watch carefully from dirt, dampness and electricity. Make it a rule to open the case only when it is absolutely necessary and never in a railway train, the open air, or a factory in which there is floating dust. The smallest particle of dust can stop a watch once it gets into the works.

Keep the pocket in which you carry the watch clean by occasionally turning it inside out and brushing it. Threads so small that they can hardly be seen without a microscope will wear from the lining of the

pocket, and find their way in, no matter how fine the workmanship of the watchcase may be.

One of the worst things imaginable for a watch is to get it wet. If your watch stays long in the water, you may consider the works ruined, for they contain many parts that are made of steel which quickly rusts. If it has been in the water only a short time, take it to the watchmaker as soon as you get it out, and have him overhaul it.

Electricity affects the running of ordinary watches. If your watch gets into the zone of an electrical machine—a dynamo, a magneto, or a motor—it may become magnetized, and either run badly or stop altogether. Near a powerful dynamo only non-magnetic watches are immune. If you find that your watch is running irregularly for no cause that you can discover, take it to a watchmaker, and let him test it for magnetism. If it be affected, he can demagnetize it in a few minutes.

A 68-acre farm near Gloucester, England, sold recently for \$305 an acre. The Woolford estate of 880 acres including the Woolford Wood sold for a total of \$84,000, not quite \$100 an acre. Another estate of 424 acres near Lewisham and between thickly populated suburbs sold for \$300,000 at auction.